

cc: Jeff
Charles
Delibrie



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Region IV
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341



FEMA

October 19, 2007

Mr. John D. James, Acting Director
Alabama Emergency Management Agency
Post Office Drawer 2160
Clanton, Alabama 35046-2160

Reference: Approval of the 2007 Update to the Alabama Standard
State Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dear Mr. James:

We are pleased to inform you and the State Hazard Mitigation Team that the 2007 update to the Alabama Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan) is in compliance with the Federal hazard mitigation planning standards resulting from the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, as contained in 44 CFR 201.4. Therefore, the 2007 Plan is approved for a period of three (3) years until October 19, 2010.

The State of Alabama and the State Hazard Mitigation Team are to be commended for developing a solid, workable plan that continues to demonstrate the commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards and that will guide mitigation activities over the next three years. The updated Plan has provided strong documentation of the natural hazard events of the past three years, demonstrating that mitigation planning is essential for the delivery of pre and post disaster services to the citizens of the State during critical times.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) no longer requires States to revise their mitigation plan after every disaster declaration, as under the former Section 409 of the Stafford Act; however, it is recommended that the State consider updating the plan whenever a disaster or other circumstances significantly affects mitigation priorities. It is recommended that the State Administrative Plan reference the mitigation priorities identified in the Plan, in order to satisfy the Administrative Plan requirement to establish priorities for the selection of mitigation projects.

A formal Plan update is required at least once every three (3) years. If the Plan is amended or revised, it must be resubmitted to FEMA Region IV for formal review and approval. If the Plan is not updated prior to the required three (3) year update, please ensure that a draft update is submitted by April 18, 2010, at least six (6) months prior to the expiration of the 2007 Plan.

By approval of this Plan update, the State of Alabama remains eligible to receive the following assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

- Public Assistance (Categories C-G),
- Fire Management Assistance Grants,
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP),
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Competitive grant program (PDM-C),
- Repetitive Flood Claims Program (RFC),
- Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA),
- Severe Repetitive Loss Program (SRL),

All requests for funding, however, will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility and other requirements of the particular program under which the application is submitted. For example, a specific mitigation activity or project identified in the plan may not meet the eligibility requirements for FEMA funding, and even eligible mitigation activities are not automatically approved for FEMA funding under any of the aforementioned programs.

We commend the State of Alabama and the State Hazard Mitigation Team for its close coordination and communication with this office in the review and subsequent approval of its Plan. If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me or Brad Loar, Director, Mitigation Division at (770) 220-5416.

Sincerely,



Major P. May *for*
Regional Administrator